Welcome to the final term of the school year. We hope everyone has come back refreshed from the holidays and are ready to learn and participate in an exciting term!

**Mathematics**
This term, as well as continuing our learning of addition and subtraction strategies, we will also be learning about 3D shapes, multiplication arrays and chance. Students have their Mathletics password and we encourage them to log on and complete the activities. We also would love to see Wattle students teaching their families a new mathematics activity with cards or dice each week.

**Literacy**
As well as learning about reading through guided reading sessions we will be looking at the structure and purpose of a range of different types of poetry and learning how to write them. During term three we began presenting awards for students who practised their writing at home and shared their best work with their class. We hope this continues again this term with our poetry studies. We are also continuing to integrate our spelling through our student’s reading and writing tasks.

As reading is an essential life skill, learning to read is an important part of every child’s education. Like other skills, reading is mastered over time, with practise and with the help of another person. Teachers ensure that children have the opportunity to acquire or consolidate reading strategies every day.

Reading at home with your children also has a tremendous impact. At home children can:
- talk about and practise the strategies they are learning at school;
- hear what good reading sounds like when they listen to you read;
- imitate you and read more fluently and expressively;
- choose what they read.

Most importantly they will develop a love of reading because they see that you value reading.

**Integrated Inquiry Unit of Work**
This term Wattle will be learning about Australia during the pre-European settlement period in a unit called Aboriginal Australia. We will be looking at the different tools, activities, Dreaming stories and art that the Indigenous people of Australia used and how many Indigenous artists still incorporate those traditions in their work today.

**Home Readers**
Home readers are still available in the classrooms however the teachers would love to see more students borrowing books from the library (either the school or local library) as this gives a greater range of topics for our students to read about. We were very excited to hand
out many reading awards last term and hope we can hand out even more in the upcoming weeks.

Class Library Times
Library times will continue the same as last term. 1SJ goes to the library on Mondays, 1AA on Mondays and 1BR on Tuesdays.

Physical Education
On Tuesday afternoons Wattle have combined sport in the hall or on the oval. This term we are focusing on learning how to use skipping ropes and the skill of dodging. Please ensure your child has a bottle of water with their name on it and a hat for Tuesday afternoons.

Drop Off and Pick Up
For the purposes of teaching students to be self-sufficient and responsible please ensure you drop off your child before 8:55am. All children must go to the Quad or library with their bags before the first bell as this is the only place where a teacher is on duty. This is a matter of safety.

Hats, Drink Bottles and Clothing
Please ensure that your child’s name is on all clothing and drink bottles as many jumpers disappear. Lost property can be found in the library before and after school. There are many unclaimed items so please check if your child is missing anything. Jumpers, hats and other items will be returned to their owners if they have a name on them.

Stationery
Could parents and carers please check with their child if they need any new sharpeners, lead pencils, scissors, books and erasers. These are needed for daily classroom lessons.

Important Dates for Term 4:
- Gordon’s Got Talent Auditions – 14th – 22nd October
- P&C Spooky Disco - 30th October
- Gordon’s Got Talent Show (juniors only) – 31st October
- Swim School - 21st October – 1st November
- Big Splash – 2nd December
- Christmas Concert – 11th December
- Last day of term – 20th December

Teachers are approachable for discussions and appreciate your contact at appropriate times. Should you have any issues please contact your child’s classroom teacher or Gareth Richards to make an interview time. This can be done through the front office.

Thank you for your support in 2013

Gareth Richards, Stephanie Johnston, Belinda Rathborne and Aly Allpress